

**THE CORRELATION BETWEEN STUDENTS' MASTERY OF PAST
TENSE AND STUDENTS' ABILITY IN WRITING RECOUNT TEXT AT
THE EIGHTH GRADE OF SMPN 11 TANJUNGPINANG IN THE
ACADEMIC YEAR OF 2017/2018**

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ABSTRACT

This research discussed the correlation between students' mastery of past tense, and their ability in writing recount text. This research was intended to know how students' mastery of past tense, and their ability in writing recount text. the population and the sample of this research were eighth students of SMPN 11 Tanjungpinang, the sample was taken by cluster random sampling. To collect the data, I used students' test of past tense, and students' ability in writing recount text. The result of this research showed that the correlation between students' mastery of past tense, and their ability in writing recount text was significant with the R value 0,409. It showed there was moderately correlation between students' mastery of past tense, and their ability in writing recount text, and the value of significant is $0,020 < 0,05$ it means alternative hypothesis (H_a) is accepted and null hypothesis (H_o) is rejected.

Keywords: Correlation, Past Tense, Recount Text

INTRODUCTION

Writing is one of the four skill on English lesson. The curriculum applied in Indonesia is School-Based Curriculum (*Kurikulum Tingkat Satuan Pendidikan*) that issued by Department of National Education 2006, stated that "The English lesson includes four skill of language that are listening, speaking, reading and writing." Based on this curriculum hoped the students can understand about the

meaning of English language, understand some text that used English language, speaking to another students and write simple text like description, narrative, procedure and recount. Students ability on writing is not so good. the lack of vocabulary, understanding of grammar is the reason students can not write good.

Teaching and learning process in school of four skill on English lesson have some problems. Based on the researcher experience when doing teacher practice since August to the month of December 2017 in SMPN 11 Tanjungpinang and look some problems of students and teaching process. The problems that occur in school are students were difficult to understand English language because this language is foreign language in Indonesia. The students were lazy to bring their dictionary. The students were not interesting with the lesson. The students were less active. The students were less on past tense in writing. The students did not know the generic structure of recount text, and they are could not write a text correctly. The students could not read the text with a good pronunciation. The students were less on vocabulary. The researcher proposed the problem formulation as follow: How is the correlation between students' mastery of past tense, and their ability in writing recount text?

METHODOLOGY

The method of this research is quantitative research that is correlation study. Quantitative research used to quantify the problem by way of generating numerical data or data that can be transformed into usable statistics. It is used to quantify attitudes, opinions, behaviors, and other defined variables – and generalize results from a larger sample population. Quantitative research used measurable data to formulate facts and uncover patterns in research. According to

Kothari (2004) Quantitative research is based on the measurement of quantity or amount. It is applicable to phenomena that can be expressed in terms of quantity. This research used correlation study. Correlation is a study to see the relationship between variables, independent variables and dependent variable.

Population is the people of research subject. According to Levy and Lemeshow (1999), the population (or universe or target population) is the entire set of individuals to which findings of the survey are to be extrapolated. The population of this study is eighth grade of SMPN 11 Tanjungpinang in the academic year of 2017/2018. There are 156 students from 4 classes. Sample is part of population. This research used simple random sampling because the population of this research is 156 students. The researcher decided to collecting data used simple random sampling and make a lottery to choose students as a participants on this research. According to Kothari (2004), simple random sampling is type of sampling is also known as chance sampling or probability sampling where each and every item in the population has an equal chance of inclusion in the sample and each one of the possible samples, in case of finite universe, has the same probability of being selected.

The researcher took 32 students as a sample in this research. Arikunto (2013), states that if the population of 1000 people and the samples was taken as many as 200 people. Based on that explanation can be concluded that the sample will be taken by 20%. The population are 156 students, and the researcher take 20% of the population as many as 32 students.

The data collecting of the research, the researcher used the following test:

(1). Multiple choice test is a test with four option answers example a, b, c and d.

According Jihad and Haris (2013), the formula to count the result of multiple choices used this formula:

$$\text{Score} = \frac{B}{N} \times 100$$

Which :

B = Right answer

N = A mount of question

(2). Essay test is to know the students ability in writing recount text the researcher asked the students to make a recount text based on students experience.

The students write recount text based on generic structure of recount text. To give the score for writing recount text, the researcher used the rating scale from Sugiyono (2012), as mention below:

Table 3.1 Rating scale of writing

NO	ASPECT	CRITERIA	SCORE
1.	Vocabulary selection	Excellent	4
		Good	3
		Adequate	2
		Fair	1
2.	Grammar selection	Excellent	4
		Good	3
		Adequate	2
		Fair	1
3.	Generic structure of writing	Excellent	4
		Good	3
		Adequate	2
		Fair	1
4.	The neatness of writing	The writing is tidy and easy to read	4
		The writing is untidy but easy to read	3
		The writing is untidy but enough to read	2

		Writing is untidy and difficult to read	1
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According Jihad and Haris (2013), to calculate the students score of essay test, the researcher used this formula :

$$\text{final score} = \frac{\text{students' score}}{\text{total score}} \times 100$$

The technique of data analysis the researcher used brivariate correlation to know the level power of variable and the correlation direction between variables.

The formula of brivariate correlation based on Sugiyono (2013):

$$r_{xy} = \frac{N\sum XY - (\sum X)(\sum Y)}{\sqrt{\{N\sum X^2 - (\sum X)^2\}\{N\sum Y^2 - (\sum Y)^2\}}}$$

Where:

r_{xy} = The number of correlation index

x = First variable

y = Second variable

n = Amount

\sum = Sum

The researcher used double correlation to know the correlation between two independent variables and a dependent variable .The result of correlation, must be significant with this formula based on sugiyono (2013):

$$t = \frac{r \sqrt{n-2}}{\sqrt{1-r^2}}$$

In which :

t : T test

r : coefficient of brivariate correlation

n : sample component quantity

The researcher used Statistical Product and Service Solution or SPSS in analyzing data.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Table score of students mastery of past tense, and their ability in writing recount text and the example using some formula from data collecting technique.

No	Students Initial	X ₁	Y
1	Student 1	70	70
2	Student 2	70	65
3	Student 3	70	70
4	Student 4	80	75
5	Student 5	65	70
6	Student 6	70	75
7	Student 7	50	60
8	Student 8	60	60
9	Student 9	60	81
10	Student 10	50	50
11	Student 11	70	75
12	Student 12	50	75
13	Student 13	60	63
14	Student 14	65	88
15	Student 15	60	88
16	Student 16	50	69
17	Student 17	70	60
18	Student 18	70	63
19	Student 19	70	63
20	Student 20	50	63
21	Student 21	50	50
22	Student 22	60	63
23	Student 23	70	63
24	Student 24	50	60
25	Student 25	50	50
26	Student 26	60	50
27	Student 27	60	50
28	Student 28	60	60
29	Student 29	60	60
30	Student 30	60	75
31	Student 31	80	75
32	Student 32	70	75
Total		1.990	2.114
Average		62	66

The researcher used the bivariate correlation formula based on Sugiyono (2013) to know the level power of variable and the correlation direction between variables. The researcher used Statistical Product and Service Solution or SPSS in analyzing data. Here is the table of bivariate correlation :

		Past Tense	Writing recount text
Past Tense	Pearson Correlation	1	.409 [*]
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.020
	N	32	32
Writing recount text	Pearson Correlation	.409 [*]	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.020	
	N	32	32

*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

The correlation table explained the correlation between past tense mastery, and writing recount text, coefficient correlation between past tense mastery and writing recount text is 0,409, significant is 0,020. The direction of correlation is positive and the connection between variable is moderately. The interpretation is the probability or significant is $0,020 < 0,05$. Here is the table of significant of coefficient correlation (T test)

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Change Statistics				
					R Square Change	F Change	df1	df2	Sig. F Change
1	.409 ^a	.167	.139	9.669	.167	6.021	1	30	.020

a. Predictors: (Constant), X1

Based on the table above, the researcher obtained number of R is 0,409. It showed there was moderately correlation between students' mastery of past tense, and their ability in writing recount text, and the significant is $0,020 < 0,05$.

CONCLUSION

The research investigated the question whether there is significant correlation between students' mastery of past tense, and their ability in writing recount text or not. Independent variable and a dependent variable. The independent variable is students mastery of past tense, symbolized "X₁", and dependent variable is writing recount text, symbolized "Y".

Based on the table of bivariate correlation and significant of coefficient correlation (T test), the researcher obtained number of R is 0,409. It showed there was moderately correlation between students' mastery of past tense, and their ability in writing recount text, and the significant is $0,020 < 0,05$. The researcher made the conclusion of this research that the coefficient correlation between students' mastery of past tense, and their ability in writing recount text is $0,020 < 0,05$ it means H_a is accepted .There is significant correlation between students' mastery of past tense, and their ability in writing recount text at the eighth grade students of SMPN 11 Tanjungpinang.

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